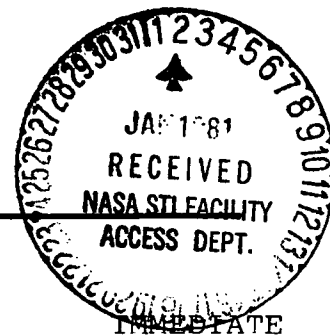


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1981 EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

NASA's 1981 expendable launch vehicle schedule calls for 15 satellite launchings--10 from the Eastern Space and Missile Center, Cape Canaveral, Fla., and five from the Western Space and Missile Center, Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., according to Joseph B. Mahon, NASA Director of the Expendable Launch Vehicles Program. NASA conducted seven satellite missions during 1980.

Included in the 1981 schedule are two NASA scientific payloads sponsored by the NASA Office of Space Science. These are the Dynamic Explorer to be launched in July by a Delta rocket, and the Solar Mesospheric Explorer scheduled for a September launch, also on board a Delta.

The remaining 13 missions will be for other U.S. Government agencies and commercial firms for which NASA will be reimbursed for launch and related services.

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 EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED
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These include two weather satellites for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, three missions for the Department of Defense, and eight commercial geosynchronous communications satellites. The commercial users include the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (INTELSAT) with four launchings; the Comsat General Corp., one mission; the Radio Corporation of America, two missions; and one for Satellite Business Systems.

The expendable launch vehicles program is managed by NASA's Office of Space Transportation Operations, Washington, D.C.

(Index: 4, 9, 17, 21, 24, 36)

1981 NASA EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE SCHEDULE

Date	Mission	Launch Vehicle	Launch Site	Sponsor and Description
February 19	COMSTAR-D	Atlas Centaur	ESMC*	Comsat General Corp. - communications - reimbursable
March	Intelsat V-B	Atlas Centaur	ESMC	Intelsat - communications - reimbursable
March	GOES-E	Delta	ESMC	NOAA - weather - reimbursable
April	Navy 20 (Nova 1)	Scout	WSMC**	DOD - transit - reimbursable
April	SBS-B	Delta	ESMC	Satellite Business Systems - communications - reimbursable
May	NOAA-C	Atlas-F	WSMC	NOAA - weather - reimbursable
June	Intelsat V-C	Atlas Centaur	ESMC	Intelsat - communications - reimbursable
June	RCA-D	Delta	ESMC	Radio Corporation of America - communications - reimbursable
June	FLTSATCOM-E	Atlas Centaur	ESMC	DOD - communications - reimbursable
July	Dynamic Explorer	Delta	ESMC	NASA - scientific
September	Navy 22 (Nova 2)	Scout	WSMC	DOD - transit - reimbursable
September	Intelsat V-D	Atlas Centaur	ESMC	Intelsat - communications - reimbursable
September	Solar Mesospheric Explorer	Delta	WSMC	NASA - scientific
October	RCA-CI	Delta	ESMC	Radio Corporation of America - communications - reimbursable
December	Intelsat V-E	Atlas Centaur	ESMC	Intelsat - communications - reimbursable

* Eastern Space and Missile Center, Cape Canaveral, Fla.
 ** Western Space and Missile Center, Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.